

**Council on Educational Services for Exceptional Children Meeting**  
**June 13, 2012**  
**Meeting Minutes**

<b>Members</b>	<b>Present</b>
Stephen	Brechbiel
Melvin	Diggs
Melanie	Hester
Susan	Humbert
Nicole	Jimerson
Mary	LaCorte
Ann	Maxwell
Teresa	Mebane
Linda	Nelson
Jana	Plemmons
Sharon	Harris-Floyd
Vicki	Simmons
Deborah	Whitfield
Cathy	Kea
Lisa	Phillips

<b>Visitors</b>	
Cynthia	Daniels-Hall
Eric	Hall
Brenda	Monforti
Cheryl	Posner-Cahill
Gerri	Smith
Lizzy	Whitfield
Brian	Tipton
Ben	King

<b>Members</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Esther	High
Tammy	Holland
Bryan	Holloway
Sally	Hunter
Sheila	Knapp
Shary	Maskel
Patricia	Naylor
Martin	Pharr
Jean	Preston
Lisa	Scercy
Gloria	Upperman

<b>DPI Staff</b>	
Mary	Jarrett
Kate	Neale
Mary	Watson

**Welcome and Introduction**

Nicole Jimerson, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m. Members and guests were welcomed with a focus placed on the reason why they are a member of the Council and why the mission of the Council is important.

**Review of Agenda**

The Council was instructed to review the agenda.

**Approval of Minutes**

The Council reviewed the March 7, 2012, meeting minutes and made one correction. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as amended.

## **Issues/Advisory Session**

### **Agency Update**

#### **Presenter: Mary Watson, Director, Exceptional Children Division**

In 2000, the Exceptional Children Division applied for and received a grant (known as the NC State Improvement Project or NCSIP) from the OSEP for purposes of improving the quality and effectiveness of educational programs and instruction for students with disabilities in NC. The initial focus was in the area of literacy. In 2005, the NCSIP included improving instruction in the area of math. The goals of the NCSIP are to improve basic skills performance of students with disabilities; increase the percentage of qualified teachers of students with disabilities; increase graduation rates and decrease dropout rates; improve parent satisfaction with, and support of, school services for students with disabilities and to improve the quality of teachers' instructional competencies. The video entitled, NC State Improvement Project, was shown and is available for viewing on the state website at [www.ncsip.gov](http://www.ncsip.gov).

### **Elementary Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Waiver- Impact on Students with Disabilities (SWD)**

#### **Presenter: Lou Fabrizio, Director of Data, Research and Policy (with Donna Brown)**

On May 31, 2012, the US Department of Education approved North Carolina's flexibility waiver request from some of the requirements of No Child Left Behind. The waiver will remain in effect for the 2012-13 and 2013-14 school years. Effectively the NC DPI will no longer designate each school as having met or not met Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). Rather, the state will now report for each school the number of Annual Measurable Objectives (AMOs) and the number of those targets met (including percentage of targets met). Under the waiver, the state can report actual individual progress made (even when below the state target).

### **Conflict of Interest Policy**

#### **Presenter: Katie Cornetto, State Board of Education Attorney**

Ms. Cornetto reviewed the State Board of Education policy regarding Standards of Conduct and Conflicts of Interest that apply to all State Board of Education advisory boards, committees and councils.

### **Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF) Update**

#### **Presenter: Kate Neale, Consultant for Dispute Resolution**

Following the last update at the March meeting, the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between DPI and DHHS was canceled by DHHS.

Action: Issue a letter of recommendation to the State Board of Education informing it of the status of the situation with recommendations about meeting the educational needs of the students with disabilities placed in PRTFs by noneducational state agencies.

**Final Note and Comments:**

1. This is the last meeting for Teresa Mebane, Shary Maskel and Linda Nelson all of whom served the maximum number of terms. Each member generously and competently served the students with disabilities in this state.
2. Linda Nelson asked to hear the Division's position on the proposed legislation for a bill of rights for deaf students. Mary Watson stated that current state and federal laws are already in place to protect all students with disabilities in all thirteen categories of disability and that a single bill of rights for one category was unnecessary.

Meeting adjourned at 1:45PM.